(b) whether a similar crisis is likely to occur or whether it already exists in India; and

(c) whether Government propose to request the UNDP to make a similar study in India, starting with a study of Ganga Action Plan Project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) A news report, 'Ecological crisis grips China' has appeared in the Economic Times, dated 19th February, 1990.

(b) Several preventive and curative measures have been initiated to control pollution and degradation of environment. If these measures are implemented effectively such a crisis is unlikely to occur in India.

(c) No, Sir.

Development of Computer Technology for Indian Languages

8. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the programme being envisaged for the development of computer technology for Indian languages, specially Sanskrit;

(b) whether some specific projects in this regard are being launched; if so, the outline of each one and when will they be launched;

(c) what are the target for Sanskrit-oriented projects to be achieved during the implementation of the programme; and

(d) if the answer to part (b) above be in the negative what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) Department of Electronics has drawn up a programme, namely, Technology Development for Indian Languages (TDIL) for implementation during the Eighth Plan. This programme covers Sanskrit also.

(b) A Sanskrit-oriented project, entitled "Computer Assisted Sanskrit Teaching, Learning Environment" was launched by Department of Electronics as a joint project at Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi in June, 1988 and Lal Bahadur Shastri Kendriya Sanskrit Vidyapeeth, New Delhi in November, 1989.

A project on investigating the use of Sanskrit language for natural language processing was initiated at the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), Pune in March, 1989.

(c) During the implementation of the TDIL programme, project proposals will be called for These projects will cover areas such as language learning system, computer based grammer and dictionary, knowledge representation schemes and natural language understanding system. These will be applicable to all Indian languages including Sanskrit. All projects taken up will involve targets for achievement and monitoring.

Apart from investigating the use of Sanskrit language for natural language processing, target of the project at C-DAC includes development of tools and techniques for Sanskrit Language processing in the Paninian Grammer framework.

(d) Does not arise.

Ninth World Book Fair

9. SHRI NARESH C. PUGLIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ninth World Book Fair was organised

by the National Book Trust in New Delhi recently; and

(b) if so, what was the number of foreign countries which had participated in the fair?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) Yes, Sir. The National Book Trust, India had organised the 9th New Delhi World Book Fair at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi from February 13 to 18, 1990.

(b) Thirty foreign countries participated in the Fair.

Comuter assisted sanskrit teaching and learning

10. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Sanskrit Vidya Peeth and Jawaharlal Nehru University, with the support of Department of Electronics, are working on the project "Computer assisted Sanskrit teaching|learning";

(b) if so, what is the progress made so far in this regard in each of the institutions; and

(c) what is the manner in which Sanskrit teaching and learning would be aided by the work being so done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The project on development of "Computer Assisted Sanskrit Teaching/Learning Environment" began in June, 1988 at Jawaharlal Nehru University and in November, 1989 at Lal Bahadur Shastri Kendriya Sanskrit Vidyapeeth, New Delhi.

Nucleus Software System has been designed which would be used in implementing the Teaching/Learning lessons and exercises. Further, two lessons, one dealing with teaching alphabets and their properties, and another dealing with Sandhis, have been designed.

(c) These proposed software packages would be available as supplementary instructional aids to facilitate drill and practice, and remedial exercises relating to sentence|text structure, vocabulary, comprehension, production and evaluation. The packages are expected to improve Sanskrit language studies and to open up new avenues for linguistic research.

Representations against President Cantonment Board, Ambala

11. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the residents of Ambala Cantonment (Haryana) and six out of seven elected members of the Cantonment Board, Ambala have submitted represntations to the Defence Minister/ Defence Secretary in November, 1989 against the President, Cantonment Board, Ambala, if so, the nature of allegations made;

(b) whether Government have investigated into the matter; and

(c) if so, the findings thereof and action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) Yes, Sir. The nature of allegations made therein can broadly be classified as follows:—

(i) He was ignoring rules and provisions of the Cantonments Act.

(ii) He has handed over Cantt. Board development projects to MES with an ulterior motive.